

Unit 25 • Session 1 * Kingdom Parables

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 13

STORY POINT: Jesus is our King.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:13

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus grows His kingdom when we trust in Him.

Bible Story for Toddlers

Jesus told stories to teach people about God’s kingdom. Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed a man planted. It is the smallest seed, but when it grew, it became a tree and birds made nests in its branches.” In another story, Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure a man found in a field. In his joy, he sold everything he had to buy that field.” Jesus was saying that God’s kingdom is worth giving everything for. It is also big enough for everyone who trusts in Jesus.

Babies Gospel Gems

* Jesus told people what God’s kingdom is like.

* God’s kingdom is worth giving everything for.

* Everyone who trusts in Jesus is part of God’s kingdom.

Look in the Bible

You will need: small Bibles for babies to handle; key passage card (print from website)

What to do: Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Matthew 13. Say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY • While Jesus lived on earth, people came to hear Him teach. Jesus told people what God’s kingdom is like.

Everyone who trusts in Jesus is part of God’s kingdom. **JESUS IS OUR KING.** [*Pray for the babies.*]

Sing a hymn

Sing the chorus of “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” If you are unfamiliar with the song, listen to it online before the session. Clap your hands to the beat and invite babies to clap or tap the table with you.

SAY • JESUS IS OUR KING. Jesus grows His kingdom when we trust in Him. God’s kingdom is worth giving everything for.

Make tree art

You will need: “Mustard Tree” printable (from website); green jumbo crayons; bird stickers if available

What to do: Print a copy of the “Mustard Tree” printable for each baby. Provide green jumbo crayons and bird stickers or cutouts for babies to decorate their tree. Talk about the Bible story as babies work.

SAY • Jesus told people what God’s kingdom is like. Jesus said it is like a tiny mustard seed that grows into a big tree. Jesus grows His kingdom when we trust in Him. **JESUS IS OUR KING.**

Look at treasure

You will need: bottle of water; funnel; glitter, small beads or jewels”; duct tape

What to do: Before the session, remove the label from a bottle of water. Pour out a third of the water. Use a funnel to add glitter, small bead “jewels,” and items to the bottle. Seal the lid and use duct tape to secure it. Invite babies to shake the bottle and examine the “treasure.” Talk about the Bible story.

SAY • God’s kingdom is worth giving everything for. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is part of God’s kingdom, and **JESUS IS OUR KING.**